

Oklahoma Crop Weather



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Summer Crops Suffer from High Temperatures and Lack of Moisture

Oklahoma weather patterns continued with another week of high temperatures and spotty rainfall. Rainfall was received in some areas of the State, but not enough to make any major improvements in topsoil and subsoil moisture. The Panhandle district received nearly an inch of rain last week, while all other districts received less than a third an inch of rain. The dry weather and hot temperatures continued to take a more extreme toll on the progress of non-irrigated summer crops as they reach their most critical stages of development. In the Southwest district, irrigation water from Lake Altus will be unavailable very soon due to the lack of rainfall. Topsoil and subsoil moisture continued to decline from last week remaining in the short to very short range. Some of the weekly reports arrived before weekend rains which influenced the soil moisture categories in the tables below. There were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	71	23	6	0
Last Week	69	25	6	0
Last Year	29	36	36	5

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	79	19	2	0
Last Week	75	23	2	0
Last Year	17	48	33	2

Small Grains: Seedbed preparations for wheat showed a slight increase from last week as producers were skeptical in continuing future planting intentions due to the long range forecast for continued dry conditions. Seedbed preparations remained well ahead of normal for rye and oats at 38 and 27 percent complete, respectively.

Row Crops: Cotton conditions showed slight improvement, but still remained mostly in the fair to poor range. Conditions for corn, sorghum, soybeans and peanuts all dropped from last week. Corn was still in mostly excellent to good condition. Soybean conditions took the biggest fall from last week as the percentage of the crop in the poor to very poor range dropped another 14 points to 63 percent. Peanut conditions also dropped but remained in mostly good to fair condition. The hot weather was causing the corn to mature well ahead of normal which was also accelerating harvest activities. Twenty percent of the crop was harvested by week's end. Over half of the sorghum crop has headed with 12 percent of the crop reaching maturity. Soybeans and peanuts were maturing ahead of normal and had reached 11 and 8 percent, respectively. Cotton boll set was slightly ahead of normal with 6 percent of the bolls opening.

ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 13, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	15	17	19	11	38
Peanuts	2	14	39	45	0
Cotton	24	32	28	16	0
Sorghum	14	20	34	20	12
Soybeans	30	33	22	11	4

Hay: Alfalfa hay and other hay conditions remained consistent from last week. Producers that had hay available were feeding their cattle while others were still struggling to find hay. Alfalfa third and fourth cuttings began to slip behind normal due to ongoing dry conditions and lack of moisture. Other hay was facing the same dilemma as first cuttings were nearly complete and second cuttings remained well behind normal at 21 percent.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 13, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	38	30	23	7	2
Other Hay	47	33	16	4	0

Miscellaneous Commodities: Watermelon harvest was winding down at 91 percent.

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions remain in critical condition. The spotted rainfall received across the State has done very little to improve pastures. The little pasture that remains was going dormant in some areas. Ponds remained extremely dry in most areas of the State and well water supplies were becoming a major concern.

Livestock: Nearly two-third's of the livestock were rated in mostly poor to very poor condition. Livestock marketings were high with light insect activity. Producers were culling cattle as forage and water supplies continued to diminish. Feeder steers under 800 pounds averaged \$116.67 per cwt. and feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$110.75 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending August 13, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	31	35	22	9	3
Pasture & Range	43	37	17	3	0

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS									
Week Ending August 13, 2006									
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
Wheat -					Peanuts -				
Plowed	91	90	94	95	Setting Pods	89	78	76	84
Seedbed Prepared	23	21	15	25	Mature	8	7	7	5
Rye -					Cotton -				
Seedbed Prepared	38	20	12	34	Setting Bolls	79	74	73	78
Oats -					Bolls Opening	6	N/A	N/A	2
Seedbed Prepared	27	14	7	17	Alfalfa -				
Corn -					3 rd Cutting	90	89	98	95
Dough	92	75	90	78	4th Cutting	31	24	50	39
Mature	44	32	31	33	Other Hay -				
Harvested	20	9	4	2	1 st Cutting	95	93	99	99
Sorghum -					2 nd Cutting	21	16	45	54
Headed	56	34	65	66	Watermelon -				
Colored	27	12	22	31	Harvested	91	85	68	86
Mature	12	N/A	3	3					
Soybeans -									
Blooming	84	74	81	79					
Setting Pods	61	55	58	60					
Mature	11	4	3	3					

Weather for Week Ending August 13, 2006: Temperatures ranged from 61 degrees at Kenton on Friday, August 11th, to 109 degrees at Webbers Falls on Thursday, August 10th. Precipitation averaged 0.03 inches in the South Central district to 0.97 inches in the Panhandle district. Soil temperatures averaged 80 degrees at Beaver on Sunday, August 13th, to 97 degrees at Chickasha on Thursday, August 10th, and at Waurika on Friday, August 11th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA							
Week Ending August 13, 2006							
Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2006 to August 13, 2006		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>
Panhandle	98	68	82	0.97	9.07	-4.29	68
West Central	101	74	87	0.07	11.86	-5.17	70
Southwest	101	76	89	0.05	9.84	-7.53	57
North Central	102	74	88	0.28	12.24	-6.32	66
Central	102	76	88	0.08	13.94	-6.70	68
South Central	101	77	89	0.03	13.51	-7.64	64
Northeast	101	75	87	0.33	17.94	-4.32	81
East Central	101	76	88	0.18	17.62	-5.74	75
Southeast	101	74	86	0.32	19.93	-4.81	81

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